

Letter from John Conser to Juliana Reynolds, September 5, 1864

Camp Near Petersburg

Sept 5th 1864

Dear Cousin,

I recd a letter from you a few days ago and was Glad to hear that you are all well and I[']s very thankfur for the respect Showen me and the interest you have taken in myself are. When I left home I was of the Opinion that I could get out of the Service at the Expiration of the three years form the time of our first Enlistment but there was a Order lshued during my absence That holds the officers three years from the date of their muster as and Officer. And consequently I Would have to Serve till the first of next July.

When I return to the regiment after the Death of Col Craig my rank Plased me in command of the regiment Which is a Great responsibility. The regiment is now mostly recruts and they are harder to controle than the old men. I am held responsible for the Disiplin and training of the men. I cannot tell what position I Will Occupy yet. I have sent for a Commission as Col of the regt but we have not men a nough at present to Entitle us to a Col. I May get a commission as Major I will know before long.

Tilton is well. He is clerking for me and I Cannot Get along without him. I Will try and do the best I can for him. We have had a Good time with the rebs for a few days. We had Privalege to talk to them all. We wanted they appeare very friendly. The first question they would ask was concerning the Chicago convention. They appear more Interested about it than we do. They think if the Democrats Gets into [Tour?] they will Get their Independence. There is a Great many Deserting and coming over every day.

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You stated that you would like to have a corespondence with me. I would like very much if you would write to me. I will try and answer you as often as I can. My respects to Thomas and all that Enquire and I will Ever remain you Cousin. Truly

J.C. Conser